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The United States Navy Veteran Association

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The United States Navy Veteran Association

Instituted May 28, 1889

Incorporated January 17, 1890

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

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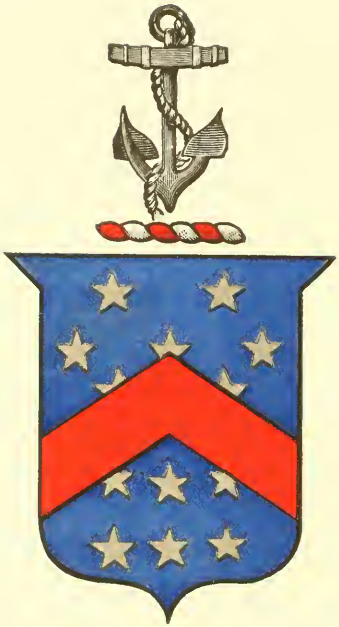
By C. Webster Wilson

Commander the United States Navy Veteran Association



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PREAMBLE.

We, Officers and Honorably Discharged Officers of the Navy and Marine Corps of the United States, whose names are hereunto annexed, having aided in maintaining the honor, integrity, and supremacy of the National Government at a critical period of its history, and holding in remembrance the sacrifices in common made and the triumphs together shared in support of this sacred duty, do unite in order to establish a permanent Association for the purpose and objects hereinafter set forth, and to this end pledge our honor as officers and gentlemen to be governed by the following Constitution and By-Laws.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

TITLE.

This Institution shall be known by the name, style, and title of the UNITED STATES NAVY VETERAN ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II.

PRINCIPLES.

This Association proclaims as its fundamental principles.

1st. A firm belief and trust in Almighty God; praising Him under whose guiding hand it was possible to maintain the supremacy of the National Union, and keep the Flag unsullied by the loss of a single star.

2d. True allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a paramount respect for and fidelity to the National Constitution and Laws, manifested by the discountenancing of whatever may tend to weaken loyalty, incite to insurrection, treason, or rebellion, or in any manner to impair the efficiency and permanency of our Free Institutions.

ARTICLE III.

OBJECTS.

The objects of this order shall be to cherish the memories and associations of the war waged in defence of the unity and indivisibility of the Republic; to strengthen the ties of fraternal fellowship and sympathy formed from companionship in arms; to promote the growth and prosperity of the United States Navy, and to foster the cultivation of Naval Science.

ARTICLE IV.

ORGANIZATION.

The several constituted bodies of this Association shall be known as Commanderies, and shall consist of

1st. State Commanderies, to be known as "The Commandery of the State of ." They may be incorporated under the laws of their respective States and under the provisions of this Constitution.

2d. A National Commandery, to be known as "The Senior Commandery."

ARTICLE V.

MEMBERS.

The members or companions of this Association shall be of two (2) classes.

First Class. 1st. Present and past commissioned, warrant, or appointed officers of the United States Navy or

Marine Corps, Regular and Volunteer (meaning in this to include all officers who were entitled to wear side-arms), who have been actually engaged in the suppression of the Rebellion, whether as officers or enlisted men.

2d. The eldest direct male lineal descendants, according to the rules of primogeniture, of deceased Original Companions of the First Class, and of deceased officers who at the time of death possessed the qualifications for membership in the Association; and if there are no such descendants, then the male heirs of such deceased companions or officers in the collateral branches of their families in the order of genealogical succession according to the rules of primogeniture, disregarding intervening female lives.

Provided, however, 1st. That the inheritance shall in every case of succession be traced anew from the Original Founder of the membership in the Association, or deceased officer as aforesaid, and not otherwise, and shall be limited in cases of collateral succession to the brothers, and descendants of brothers and sisters, of such Original Companion or deceased officer, and, in cases of representation through females, the elder branches shall be preferred to the younger; but any Original Companion, having no direct lineal descendant, may, by writing filed with the Secretary of the Commandery in which he may be enrolled, or by his last will and testament, or instrument in the nature thereof, nominate for life his successor from among his male heirs within the said limits in the collateral branches of his family.

2d. That any person eligible for membership by inheritance, or by renunciation of another, may, by writing filed with the Secretary of the Commandery in which the member-

ship may be enrolled, waive and renounce his right to such eligibility in favor of the next entitled person.

3d. That in case one already a Companion of the Association is next in line of inheritance from a deceased Original Companion or officer as aforesaid, the eligibility of membership in right of such deceased Companion or officer shall devolve upon the person next entitled other than such living Companion or his direct lineal descendants.

4th. That in cases of inheritance by persons under the age of twenty-one years, their right of succession to eligibility of membership, or of renunciation of such eligibility, shall be postponed until they attain majority.

5th. That the resignation, expulsion, or forfeiture of membership of a Companion who has obtained such membership by inheritance, shall only work as a waiver of his rights in favor of the next person in the line of inheritance from the Original Companion or deceased officer as aforesaid.

6th. That no right of inheritance shall be derived from any Original Companion who has been expelled from the Association; but, in case an Original Companion shall have resigned or been dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues, his successor may be allowed by vote of a majority of the members of the Commandery present at any stated meeting to revive the said right.

7th. That such descendants or collateral heirs shall have been duly elected as hereinafter provided.

SECOND CLASS. The eldest sons of living Original Companions of the First Class, who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, and been duly elected as hereinafter provided. Upon the death of the Companion of the First Class,

through whom eligibility of membership is derived, a Companion of the Second Class shall become a Companion of the First Class.

Provided, however, that such Companions of the Second Class shall not have the right to hold office or of voting at meetings, or of balloting for officers or new members.

ARTICLE VI.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. Every application for membership shall be made in writing, signed by the applicant, accompanied by the admission fee of $15, which shall entitle him during membership to a Diploma, Badge, and Ribbon. He shall be recommended in writing by a Companion of the First Class of the Association, who shall vouch for the candidate's eligibility. The application shall be referred by the Commander to a Committee of Investigation, consisting of three (3) Companions of the Association, none of whom shall be the recommending Companion. The Committee shall ascertain the date of his appointment into the United States Navy, and if discharged, the reasons therefor. In all cases they shall make a careful examination of his standing and moral character, and shall report in writing at the next stated meeting of the Commandery. After the reading of the report the Commander shall formally request any Companion of the Association who objects to the report, or has reasons against the election of the candidate, to then state the same, if he so desires. Upon the adoption of the report the candidate must be balloted for. If

the report be unfavorable, every Companion of the Commandery present shall, unless excused by a vote of the Commandery, deposit one (1) ballot for or against the candidate. If no more than two black balls be deposited against him, he shall be declared duly elected; but if three black balls be deposited against him he shall be rejected, and so declared.

SECT. 2. An application for membership may be withdrawn before report thereon, or after report and before ballot, if the report be favorable.

SECT. 3. A Companion-elect before being admitted to the privileges of membership shall subscribe to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association, and be presented at one of the meetings of the Commandery. But if he shall neglect or refuse to comply with these conditions for the period of six (6) months, unless prevented by sickness or other unavoidable occurrence, his election may be declared null and void, and the initiation fee forfeited; provided, that Companions-elect of the Association, who may be stationed, or who may reside at a distance too great to be present at the stated meeting next succeeding their election, and thus are unavoidably prevented from complying in full with the above requirements, may, in lieu thereof, make in writing the requisite declaration of membership.

SECT. 4. A rejected candidate for membership shall be ineligible for proposal in the Association until a period of one (1) year shall have elapsed from the date of his rejection, after which, should he again apply for membership, he shall comply in all particulars with the forms hereinbefore prescribed, except in the matter of balloting, and in that respect one black ball shall reject said candidate.

SECT. 5. When the fact of the unworthiness or ineligibility of any candidate for membership in the Association shall be certified to by a committee of investigation, it shall be recorded, and a copy of such record forwarded to every Commander.

ARTICLE VII.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. The right of a member to resign or to withdraw from the Association for any stated period of time, on application made as hereinafter directed, shall be given at any stated meeting, two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) concurring in the same; and this with the understanding that during such time the Companion withdrawing shall not enjoy the rights and privileges of other members. In case of the proposed withdrawal or resignation of a member before the same shall be allowed or accepted, he shall return to the Commandery the Diploma, Badge, and Ribbon of the Association.

SECT. 2. All applications for permission to withdraw or resign from the Association shall be made in writing, and accompanied by a certificate from the Paymaster that all dues have been satisfied; but no member shall be permitted to withdraw or resign while charges are pending against him.

SECT. 3. Membership shall be forfeited only for a violation of any of the obligations taken on entering the Association, or for other conduct unbecoming a gentleman and inconsistent with that of a man of honor. In such cases the Diploma, Badge, and Ribbon, and all other property belonging to the individual as connected with this Association, shall be returned

to the Commandery of which he is a member. In no case shall a Companion be exempt from his obligations to this Association solely on account of absence therefrom.

SECT. 4. In case of the death of a Companion, his heirs shall be entitled to retain possession of his Diploma, Badge, and Ribbon.

ARTICLE VIII.

IMPEACHMENT OF MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. If the conduct or character of any Companion of this Association shall be impeached, the accusing member shall prefer his charge in writing to the Executive Committee, who shall notify the accused of the same; and if, after due investigation, the Executive Committee consider the charge to be sustained, they shall report the case, with their decision, to the Commandery, notifying the accused of the time when the report is to be made. If the accused member shall fail to come forward and exculpate himself, he may be expelled by a vote of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members of the Commandery; but no vote for the reprimand, suspension, or expulsion of a Companion shall be taken except at a stated meeting.

SECT. 2. The dismissing, cashiering, or dishonorable discharge from the service of the United States of any officer who may be a Companion of this Association shall constitute sufficient ground for his expulsion without further investigation. If such officer shall be reinstated, he may thereafter resume his membership in the Association, should there be then no objection to his so doing.

SECT. 3. A member who has been expelled may be reinstated only by a unanimous vote of the members of the Commandery, at the next stated meeting after he shall petition in writing for reinstatement.

ARTICLE IX.

DIPLOMA OF MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. Every Diploma of Membership shall be signed by the Senior Commander, and shall have the seal of the Association affixed thereto, and shall be attested by the Senior Secretary.

SECT. 2. The forms of Diploma shall be as follows : —

No. . The crest of the Association, beneath which an American Eagle displayed, in its talons grasping an oak wreath, rising from a cloud, in which are grouped two swords and four boat flag-staffs ; on the dexter side the upper staff hanging the flag of the Secretary of the United States Navy, the lower staff hanging the United States Ensign ; on the sinister side the upper staff hanging the flag of the Admiral of the United States Navy, the lower staff hanging the United States Jack ; the whole resting on the Arms of the Association, flanked on the dexter side by a Dahlgren gun and on the sinister side by a Parrott rifle, both on broadside carriages complete, the whole proper, beneath which, on a ribbon azure, the mottoes " Patriotism," " Valor," " Fidelity," and suspended therefrom the Insignia of the Association.

For Original Companions of the First Class, other than those by right of inheritance, it shall read as follows: —

United States Navy Veteran Association.

THE SENIOR COMMANDERY, TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

KNOW YE, *That* _____ UNITED STATES NAVY, *having proved himself loyal and faithful in maintaining the honor and integrity of the Nation, has been received as a* COMPANION OF THE FIRST CLASS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY VETERAN ASSOCIATION, *on the* _____ *day of* _____ *Anno Domini one thousand* _____ *through the Commandery of the State of* _____.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, *the names of the proper Officers and the Seal of the Association are hereunto affixed. Given at Boston, this* _____ *day of* _____ *in the year of our Lord one thousand* _____ *and in the* _____ *year of the Independence of the United States.*

_____

Senior Commander.

Attest:

_____

Senior Secretary.

L. S.

For Companions of the First Class by right of inheritance, and for Companions of the Second Class, it shall read as follows: —

United States Navy Veteran Association.

THE SENIOR COMMANDERY, TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

KNOW YE, *That* _____ UNITED STATES NAVY, *having proved himself loyal and faithful in maintaining the honor and integrity of the Nation, his* _____ *has been received as a* COMPANION OF THE _____ CLASS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY VETERAN ASSOCIATION, *on the* _____ *day of* _____ *Anno Domini one thousand* _____ *through the Commandery of the State of* _____.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, *the names of the proper Officers and the Seal of the Association are hereunto affixed. Given at Boston, this* _____ *day of* _____ *in the year of our Lord one thousand* _____ *and in the* _____ *year of the Independence of the United States.*

Senior Commander.

Attest:

_____

Senior Secretary.

L. S.

ARTICLE X.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The officers of the State Commanderies of the Association shall be a Commander, Vice-Commander, Secretary, Paymaster, and Chaplain, who shall, with two members chosen in like manner, constitute an Executive Committee. They shall be elected annually in January, as hereinafter directed, and shall hold office until relieved by properly qualified successors.

SECT. 2. The officers of the National Commandery shall be a Senior Commander, Senior Vice-Commander, Senior Secretary, Senior Paymaster, and Senior Chaplain, who shall, with two members chosen in a like manner, constitute a Senior Executive Committee. They shall hold office for a term of three (3) years, or until relieved by properly qualified successors.

ARTICLE XI.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Commander to preside at all meetings of the Commandery and of the Executive Committee; to enforce a strict observance of the Constitution and By-Laws; to appoint all Officers and Committees not otherwise provided for: to sign all orders drawn upon the Paymaster for all sums necessary to defray the expenses, and for other appropriations made and passed at a stated meeting

of the Commandery; and to perform such other duties as custom and parliamentary usage may require of him.

SECT. 2. The Vice-Commander shall, when called upon, assist the Commander in the performance of his duties. The Vice-Commander is, in the event of the death, resignation, or absence of the Commander, his plenary representative. If neither of the above-named officers be present, a Commander *pro tempore* shall be elected.

SECT. 3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep, in books provided for the purpose,

1st. The Constitution and By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Association, to be signed by every Companion on his becoming a member thereof.

2d. A journal of the proceedings of the Commandery after the same has been corrected and approved.

3d. A letter-book of copies of all official letters sent.

4th. A register of the members of the Commandery, to contain every material fact relative to their membership.

5th. A book in which shall be recorded the names and full particulars of all who may be declared ineligible for membership in the Association, and those who may be expelled from the Association, and the reasons therefor. He shall give due notice of all meetings of the Commandery, and shall furnish in the said notice the name, rank in the service, and address of each candidate for membership, together with his or their recommendations, and the Committee of Investigation; and in notices of the stated meetings he shall state the amount due by the Companion to whom issued. He shall conduct the correspondence of the Commandery, and shall transfer to his successor in office, within two (2) weeks from the expiration

of his term, all books, papers, or other property in his possession belonging to the office.

SECT. 4. The Paymaster shall receive all moneys belonging to the Commandery, giving receipts for the same. He shall pay all orders signed by the Commander, and none others, and must retain, in a book provided for the purpose, these orders as his vouchers. He shall keep fair and regular accounts of his receipts and expenditures, making a quarterly statement thereof. He shall pay over and deliver to his successor in office, on the night of investiture of said successor, all moneys, vouchers, books, or papers, belonging to the Commandery, in his hands at the close of his term of office. For the faithful performance of his duty he shall give such security as the Commandery may direct. He shall issue, on proper requisitions, the Diploma of Membership and the Insignia of the Association; and shall keep, in a book provided for the purpose, a full and complete record of the same. He shall, ten days before a stated meeting, send to the Secretary a list of Companions who are indebted to the Commandery, with the amount due for each.

SECT. 5. It shall be the duty of the Chaplain to open the meetings of the Commandery in the manner prescribed, and to perform such other duties as general custom may require of him.

SECT. 6. The Executive Committee shall exercise a general inspection and control over all property belonging to the Commandery. They shall act as Auditing Committee, and have power to fill vacancies in the offices of the Commandery until the time of the next Annual Election.

ARTICLE XII.

REMOVAL OF OFFICERS.

Any officer of the Association who shall neglect or improperly perform the duties incumbent upon him may be removed by a vote of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members of the Commandery present.

ARTICLE XIII.

MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. The stated meetings of the several Commanderies of the Association shall be held in January, April, and October, unless the Commandery, by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote, shall otherwise direct. *Provided, however*, that each Commandery shall hold a meeting in the month of January of each year for the election of officers.

SECT. 2. Special meetings may be convened at the pleasure of the Commander, or at the written request of five (5) members of the Commandery, five (5) days' previous notice being given in every case.

SECT. 3. Five (5) members of the Commandery shall constitute a quorum at any meeting at which business is to be transacted.

ARTICLE XIV.

SECRECY.

SECTION 1. None but Companions shall be present at a business meeting of the Association. The proceedings of the Association shall be kept secret.

SECT. 2. Any member who shall disclose the name of a Companion who has been instrumental in causing the rejection of any candidate for membership, or give information that may lead to such disclosure, shall be expelled from the Association; and the Commander shall cause the provisions of this law to be read immediately after the rejection of such application.

ARTICLE XV.

FUNDS.

SECTION 1. The fiscal year of the Association shall begin the first day of January.

SECT. 2. Funds for defraying the current expenses of the Association shall be raised by an annual assessment of ten ($10) dollars upon each Companion, which shall be paid in advance. *Provided, however*, that Companions who live at a distance too great to attend meetings shall be known as non-resident members, and shall pay an annual assessment of five ($5) dollars.

SECT. 3. Companions who may join during the year shall pay an assessment *pro rata* for the balance of the year.

ARTICLE XVI.

ARREARAGES.

SECTION 1. Any Companion who may be in arrears at the time of holding the annual election of officers shall be prohibited from voting and ineligible to any office until such dues shall be paid or remitted.

SECT. 2. Any Companion who may be one (1) year or more in arrears at the stated meeting in January, shall be specially notified of the fact; and, if the same be not paid within a reasonable time thereafter, the Commandery may, by a vote of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members present, suspend the Companion until such arrearages shall be paid or duly remitted.

SECT. 3. If the Companion shall neglect or refuse to pay such arrears, he may be dropped from the roll by order of a majority of the members of the Commandery present, unless it shall appear that the delinquency has occurred through unavoidable disability; in which case the Commandery may remit the whole or any portion thereof. Companions so dropped from the roll may, however, be reinstated by vote of the majority of members of the Commandery present, upon payment of such arrears.

ARTICLE XVII.

STATE COMMANDERIES.

SECTION 1. Authority to organize a State Commandery may be granted by the Senior Commandery upon a vote of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members present at a stated meeting. *Provided, however*, that the written application for such organization shall have been made by at least seven (7) Companions of the First Class.

SECT. 2. The form of Charter shall be as follows: —

The crest of the Association, beneath which an American Eagle displayed, in its talons grasping an oak wreath, rising from a cloud, in which are grouped two swords and four boat flag-staffs; on the dexter side the upper staff hanging the flag of the Secretary of the United States Navy, the lower staff hanging the United States Ensign: on the sinister side the upper staff hanging the flag of the Admiral of the United States Navy, the lower staff hanging the United States Jack; the whole resting on the Arms of the Association, flanked on the dexter side by a Dahlgren gun and on the sinister side by a Parrott rifle, both on broadside carriages complete, the whole proper, beneath which, on a ribbon azure, the mottoes "Patriotism," "Valor," "Fidelity," and suspended therefrom the Insignia of the Association.

United States Navy Veteran Association.

THE SENIOR COMMANDERY, TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

KNOW YE, *That our trusty Companions,* _____

_____

_____

are hereby authorized to institute, organize, and commission a Commandery in
to be known as THE COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF
OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY VETERAN ASSOCIATION.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, *the names of the proper Officers and the Seal of the Association are hereunto affixed. Given at Boston, this* _____ *day of* _____ *in the year of our Lord one thousand* _____ *and in the* _____ *year of the Independence of the United States.*

_____

Senior Commander.

Attest:

_____

Senior Secretary.

L. S.

SECT. 3. Upon issuing the Charter to any Commandery the Senior Commander shall direct at what time and place the same shall be organized. The officers then chosen shall enter on their duties at once, and hold their offices until the meeting in the month of January next following.

SECT. 4. Each Commandery may make such rules and regulations as they deem necessary and proper, provided the same do not conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association.

SECT. 5. Each Commandery shall make a full report of its condition and proceedings to the Senior Commandery annually in December.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SENIOR COMMANDERY.

SECTION 1. The Senior Commandery shall consist of the Commanders, ex-Commanders, Vice-Commanders, ex-Vice-Commanders, Secretaries, ex-Secretaries, Paymasters and ex-Paymasters, Chaplains and ex-Chaplains, of the several Commanderies.

SECT. 2. The duties of the officers of the Senior Commandery shall be as prescribed in Article XI. of the Constitution for State Commanderies.

SECT. 3. All legislative power, except as reserved to the State Commanderies, shall be vested in the Senior Commandery.

SECT. 4. The Senior Commandery shall, in the name and by the authority of the Association, issue all diplomas

of membership and charters for the institution of new Commanderies. The Senior Paymaster shall have the care and custody of the diploma-plates, dies, insignia, and ribbon, and shall deliver to Paymasters the Diplomas of Membership, and the Insignia required for their respective members.

SECT. 5. Should any State Commandery cease to hold regular meetings as provided by this Constitution for a period of one year, the Charter of the same may be revoked by the Senior Commandery, and the Companions thereof in good standing shall be transferred to such Commanderies as they may elect.

SECT. 6. In order that the several Commanderies shall be brought into direct communication with each other, it shall be the duty of the Senior Commandery to have the Commanderies notified of each new organization that may have been effected; and on the receipt of such official information they shall communicate, with the least possible delay, with the new Commandery, tendering greetings on its entrance into the Association.

SECT. 7. The headquarters of the Senior Commandery of the Association shall be in the City of Boston, State of Massachusetts, at which place it shall assemble at least once in every two years. Its members may be represented by letter. The Executive Committee shall meet at least annually. Its members may be represented by letter.

SECT. 8. The actual and necessary expenses of the Senior Commandery shall be provided for by a *pro rata* assessment upon each State Commandery, according to the number of the members in such Commandery.

ARTICLE XIX.

COAT OF ARMS.

The Coat of Arms of the Association shall be

ARMS on a field azure with thirteen (13) stars blazoned argent, a chevron gules.

CREST upon a wreath argent and gules, a foul anchor erect proper.

ARTICLE XX.

SEAL.

The seal of the Association shall be $1\frac{3}{10}$ inches in diameter, and shall consist of the crest as hereinbefore blazoned, the whole encircled by a band $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch wide, thereon the legend "Seal of the United States Navy Veteran Association."

ARTICLE XXI.

INSIGNIA.

The Insignia of the Association shall consist of the badge pendant. The bar in form of a ship's yard. The ribbon of azure watered silk, studded over with thirteen (13) stars argent. The link holding the ribbon and badge, a marine shackle. The badge obverse, a cross of five (5) points argent, with a border of gules, and upon each of the points an initial of the Association;

upon the sinister point the letter "U," chief point "S," the dexter point "N," lower sinister point "V," lower dexter point "A," all of gold, and between these points rays of gold; in the centre a raised disk of azure and upon it a foul anchor, in bend sinister, gold. Reverse same as obverse, excepting the centre raised disk, which is of gold, and upon which the number of the Insignia will be engraved.

ARTICLE XXII.

UNIFORM OF THE ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 1. On occasions of ceremony the Companions of the Association may wear the uniform of their respective grade whilst in the service, subject to such regulations as may be hereinafter enjoined.

SECT. 2. The Insignia of the Association shall be worn conspicuously, and only upon the left breast.

ARTICLE XXIII.

AMENDMENTS.

No alteration, addition, or amendment shall be made to this Constitution, unless agreed to by three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of the whole number represented at a stated meeting of the Senior Commandery of the Association, and the notice of such meeting shall contain the full text of the proposed amendment.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

Fundamental principles of this Association being recognized as its only test of loyal citizenship, the discussion or introduction of sectarian or partisan topics within the precincts of the Association is prohibited.

ARTICLE II.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

At stated meetings the business shall be conducted in the following order: —

1st. At the time appointed the Commander shall take the chair and call the Association to order.

2d. The Secretary may call the roll of members.

3d. The minutes of the last stated and all subsequent meetings shall be read and disposed of.

4th. The stated business of the meeting, if any, shall be considered.

5th. Unfinished business shall be taken up.

6th. Reports of officers and committees shall be heard.

7th. Written communications shall be presented.

8th. Candidates for membership shall be ballotted for.

9th. Applications for membership shall be received.

10th. Dues of Companions shall be called for payment.

11th. New business may be introduced.

12th. The Secretary shall register the names of Companions present.

13th. Adjournment.

ARTICLE III.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.

SECTION 1. The general parliamentary law shall govern the transactions of the Association.

SECT. 2. All official orders, communications, records, and proceedings, of whatever character, shall conform as nearly as possible to the general regulations, usages, and customs of the Naval Service of the United States.

ARTICLE IV.

INVESTITURE OF OFFICERS.

Upon the election of a Companion to any office of the Association, he shall make a declaration upon honor that he will faithfully perform the duties of said office until properly relieved.

ARTICLE V.

SECTION 1. No person who is not a member shall be present at any meeting or entertainment given by this Association, except upon application by a Companion to the Secretary, and upon invitation signed by the Secretary, by authority of the Association.

SECT. 2. The names of the invited guests and of members who invited them shall be entered upon the records of the Association meetings.

SECT. 3. The cost of such invitation will be fixed by the Executive Committee. This sum must accompany the request for invitation.

ARTICLE VI.

THE ACTING SENIOR COMMANDERY.

Until the organization of the Senior Commandery of the Association, the Commandery tof he State of Massachusetts shall act as Senior Commandery.

ARTICLE VII.

AMENDMENTS.

No alteration, addition, or amendment shall be made to these By-Laws, unless agreed to by three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of the whole number represented at a stated meeting of the Senior Commandery of the Association.

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